

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

JAMES S. REINHARD, M.D. COMMISSIONER

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TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Wendy Brown, Policy Analyst

Office of Planning and Development

SUBJECT: Emergency Rules and Regulations for Licensing Providers of Mental Health,

Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse, 12 VAC 35-105-925

DATE: December 9, 2005

This is to advise you that the above-referenced emergency regulations became effective on December 6, 2005. These regulations implement Chapter 7 of the 2005 Virginia Acts of Assembly and establish standards for the evaluation of the need and appropriateness of issuance of new licenses for providers of treatment of persons with opioid addiction.

According to Virginia's Administrative Process Act, emergency regulations may remain effective for a maximum of twelve months. Therefore, the agency has also initiated the process for adopting regulations on a permanent basis by submitting a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) for publication in the <u>Virginia Register</u>. This NOIRA requests your comments to assist the agency to develop the permanent regulations.

Please submit your comments about the proposed regulatory action in writing no later than December 30, 2005 to Leslie Anderson, Director of the Office of Licensing, by mail at the above address, e-mail leslie.anderson@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or via fax (804) 692-0066. You may obtain a copy of the emergency regulations on the Department's website at www.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by contacting Wendy Brown, via e-mail at wendy.brown@co.dmhmrsas.virginia.gov or by telephone at (804) 225-2252.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this regulatory process.

pc: Leslie Anderson